

Date Mailed
November 16, 2000

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Petition of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative for a
Declaratory Ruling Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.41
Regarding Renewable Fuels and Fuel Cells

23-DR-100

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING
AND
INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

Comments Due: Friday, December 1, 2000 – Noon	Address Comments To: Paul C. Helgeson, Case Coordinator Electric Division Public Service Commission P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854 FAX (608) 266-3957
FAX Due: Thursday, November 30, 2000 – Noon	

THIS IS A PROCEEDING on a petition for a declaratory ruling, under Wis. Stat. § 227.41, filed September 11, 2000, by Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives on behalf of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative. The petition asks the Commission to issue a declaratory ruling on the following question:

- Is a fuel cell fueled by ethanol produced from corn a renewable resource for the purposes of meeting the requirements of the Renewable Portfolio Standard?

Wis. Stat. § 196.378(1)(h)1.a states that a “renewable facility” (for the purpose of the portfolio standard) must derive electricity from “renewable resources,” and a fuel cell will qualify as such a resource if it “uses, as determined by the commission, a renewable fuel.”

In addition, these statutes consider a biomass-fueled resource to be renewable and define biomass to include “crops grown for use as a resource.” *Sec.* Wis Stat. § 196.378(1)(a) and (h)2.

The Commission requests comments on the above issues. Any person who desires to file comments should submit an original and 15 copies as indicated in the box above. These comments must be received by noon on Friday, December 1, 2000. Comments by fax are due on Thursday, November 30, 2000. Fax filing cover sheets must state “Official Filing” and include the docket number and the number of pages (limit of 20 pages). File by one mode only.

This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). Since no unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission which indicate that significant environmental consequences are likely, neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Paul C. Helgeson at (608) 266-3905.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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